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Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 12th day of December 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Ronald B. Eaton,

*Acting Director, Project Directorate I-3,
Division of Reactor Projects—I/II, Office of
Nuclear Reactor Regulation.*

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NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. 50-410]

Long Island Lighting Company Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit 2; Environmental Assessment And Finding Of No Significant Impact

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (the Commission) is considering the issuance of an Order approving, under 10 CFR 50.80, an application regarding a proposed indirect transfer of control of ownership and possessory rights held by Long Island Lighting Company (LILCO) under the operating license for Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit No. 2 (NMP2). The indirect transfer would be to the Long Island Power Authority (LIPA), a corporate municipal instrumentality of New York State. LILCO is licensed by the Commission to own and possess an 18 percent interest in NMP2, located in the town of Scriba, Oswego County, New York.

Environmental Assessment

Identification of the Proposed Action

The proposed action would consent to the indirect transfer of control of the license to the extent affected by LILCO becoming a subsidiary of LIPA. This restructuring of LILCO as a subsidiary of LIPA would result from LIPA's proposed purchase of LILCO stock through a cash merger at a time when LILCO consists of its electric transmission and distribution system, its retail electric business, substantially all of its electric regulatory assets, and its 18 percent share of NMP2. LILCO would continue to exist as an "electric utility" as defined in 10 CFR 50.2 providing the same electric utility services it did immediately prior to the restructuring. No direct transfer of the operating license or interests in the station would result from the proposed restructuring. The transaction would not involve any change to either the management organization or technical

personnel of Niagara Mohawk Power Corporation (NMP2), which is responsible for operating and maintaining NMP2 and is not involved in the LIPA acquisition of LILCO. The proposed action is in accordance with LILCO's application dated September 8, 1997, as modified and supplemented October 8, 1997, and November 7, 1997.

The Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed action is required to enable LIPA to acquire LILCO as described above.

Environmental Impacts of the Proposed Action

The Commission has completed its evaluation of the proposed corporate restructuring and concludes that there will be no physical or operational changes to NMP2. The corporate restructuring will not affect the qualifications or organizational affiliation of the personnel who operate and maintain the facility, as NMP2 will continue to be responsible for the maintenance and operation of NMP2 and is not involved in the acquisition of LILCO by LIPA.

The change will not increase the probability or consequences of accidents, no changes are being made in the types of any effluents that may be released offsite, and there is no significant increase in the allowable individual or cumulative occupational radiation exposure. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant radiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

With regard to potential nonradiological impacts, the restructuring would not affect nonradiological plant effluents and would have no other environmental impact. Accordingly, the Commission concludes that there are no significant nonradiological environmental impacts associated with the proposed action.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action

Since the Commission has concluded there are no significant environmental effects that would result from the proposed action, any alternatives with equal or greater environmental impact need not be evaluated.

As an alternative to the proposed action, the staff considered denial of the proposed action. Denial of the application would result in no change in current environmental impacts. The environmental impacts of the proposed action and the alternative action are similar.

Alternative Use of Resources

This action does not involve the use of any resources not previously considered in the Final Environmental Statements Related to the Operation of Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station, Unit No. 2, (NUREG-1085) dated May 1985.

Agencies and Persons Contacted

In accordance with its stated policy, on December 10, 1997, the staff consulted with the New York State official, Mr. Jack Spath, regarding the environmental impact of the proposed action. The State official had no comments.

Finding of No Significant Impact

Based upon the environmental assessment, the Commission concludes that the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Accordingly, the Commission has determined not to prepare an environmental impact statement for the proposed action.

For further details with respect to the proposed action, see LILCO's application dated September 8, as modified and supplemented by letters dated October 8 and November 7, 1997, which are available for public inspection at the Commission's Public Document Room, the Gelman Building, 2120 L Street, NW., Washington, DC, and at the local public document room located at the Reference and Documents Department, Penfield Library, State University of New York, Oswego, New York 13126.

Dated at Rockville, Maryland, this 9th day of December 1997.

For the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Darl S. Hood,

Senior Project Manager, Project Directorate I-1, Division of Reactor Projects—I/II, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation.

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PANAMA CANAL COMMISSION

Revision of a Currently Approved Collection of Information

AGENCY: Panama Canal Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13, 109 Stat. 163), this notice announces the Panama Canal Commission (PCC) is planning to submit to the Office of Management and Budget a Paperwork Reduction Act Submission (83-I) for a revision of a currently approved collection of information entitled